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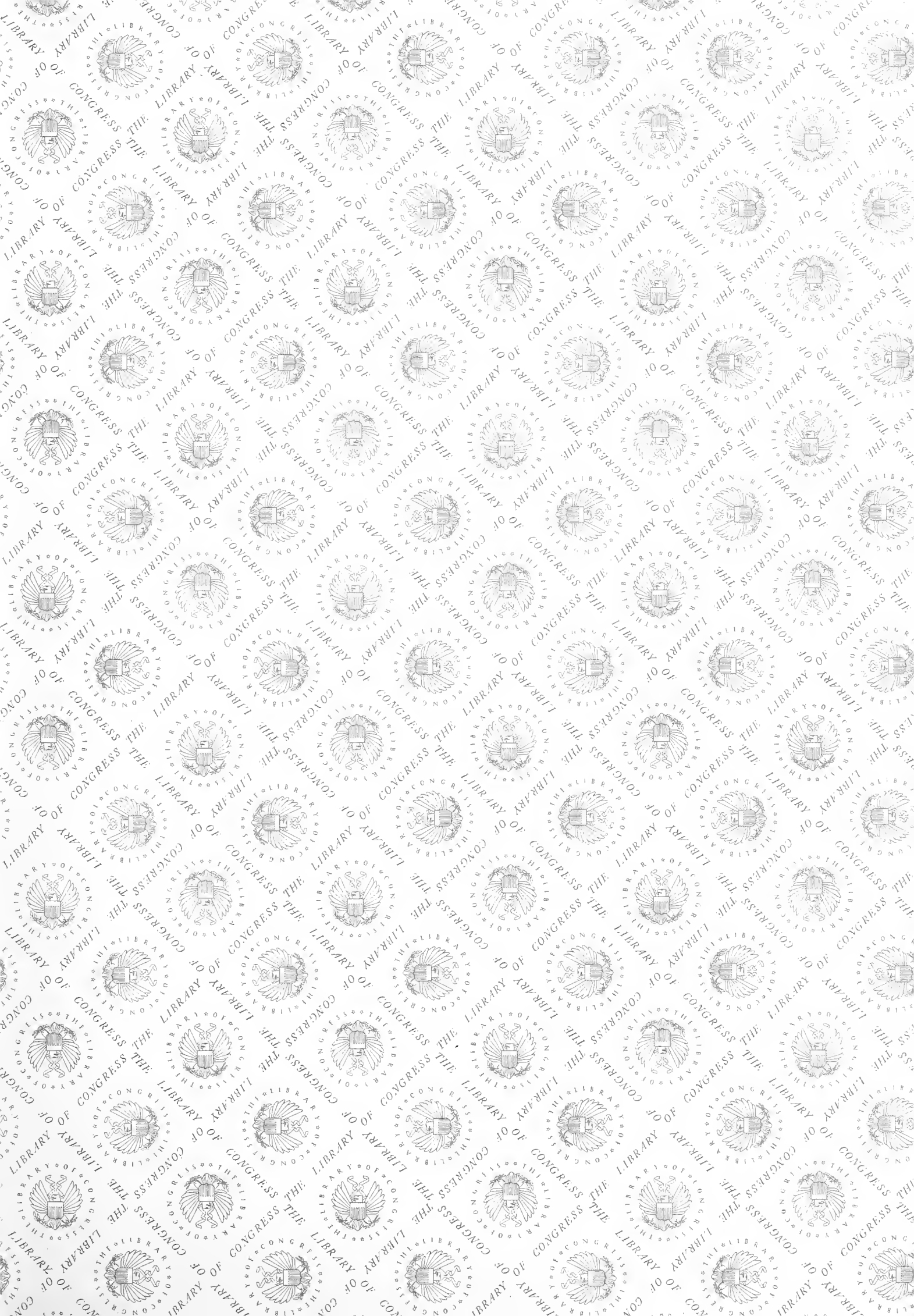
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THE TAILOR.

NEW SYSTEM OF DRAFTING

DIRECT FROM THE MEASUREMENT TAKEN WITH A TAPE MEASURE,

WITHOUT ANY INSTRUMENT,

FOR ALL THE VARIOUS FORMS OF THE HUMAN BODY,

Simplified by a Scale on Double Shoulder Measure.

TO BE LEARNED WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.

BY L. PHYLKY,

CUTTER, WITH JAMES E. HADDEN & CO., 755 BROADWAY.

Second Edition.

NEW YORK:
THOMAS HOLMAN, PRINTER, CORNER OF CENTRE AND WHITE STREETS.

1867.

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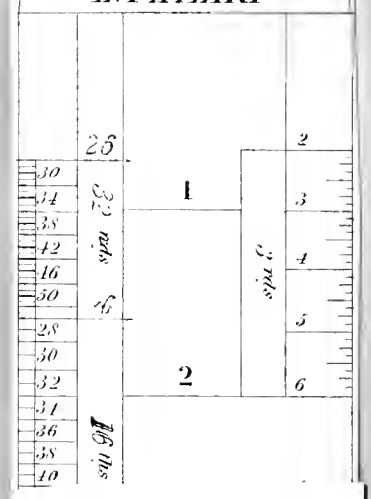

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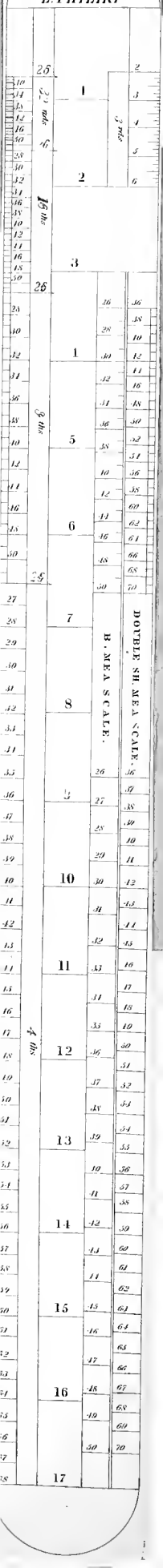

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L. PHYLIKY,

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76-35506

COATS.

MEASURE.

A MEASURE taken on a coat more or less wadded, or which does not fit, never produces a satisfactory result; in order to be correct, the measure should be taken on the vest. It is an error and prejudice to suppose that it is more difficult to measure without the coat. You will find an undoubted advantage in this system, and great facility in determining the exact form of the body, which is impossible when measured over the coat; let the operator be ever so talented.

The measure ought to be taken with ease and dispatch, and it has a bad appearance to be moving around your customer; placing yourself behind him, you can do all the measurement without change of position. It is of great importance that your customer should not assume a forced or unnatural position; to avoid this difficulty, address him on some subject to attract his attention. Be also very careful, in measuring, to place the measure close to the body, neither tight, loose, nor crooked. Apply the measure around the arm with your finger, in order to bring the looseness of the shirt close to the body; take all of the same tightness, and those from the socket bone, without departing from it.

1. Breast measure, 30 inches. Over the largest part of the chest, close to the arms, and over the shoulder-blade. While this measure is being taken, some expand the chest; to prevent this, make them speak.

2. Waist measure, 26 inches. By the application of the measure around the hollow of the waist, holding it with your left hand, you can easily determine the length of waist, according to fashion or taste, and make a dot; it would also be well to make one on each hip.

3. Hip measure, 27½ inches. Passing over the dot or dots which are calculated to mark the length of the waist.

4. Seat measure (to be taken easy,) 31 inches. Round the body, on the largest part of the seat.

5. Length of waist, 15¾ inches. From the socket bone down to the dot.

6. Total length, 31 inches. Take the knee-joint for guide, and make according to fashion or taste, above or below.

At least four of the above measures are taken by every one, and can be taken before or after the special system measurement, and with or without a coat on; but by taking them before, and without a coat on, you have the advantage, if your customer has assumed an unnatural position, that he will retake a natural one while they are being taken.

7. Adjustment, 6 inches. See that the vest is properly adjusted, and make a dot in the hollow of the waist, perpendicularly with the front of the shoulder bone (which is at the fore-arm when falling naturally), and measure from the centre of the back to the dot; or, if you have any difficulty in finding the centre of the back, make a dot on each side, measure from one dot to the other, and take the half of the measurement.

From the socket bone.

8. Back balance, 16¼ inches. Passing over the shoulder-blade, on the most direct line down to the dot.

9. Front balance, 17 inches. Passing by the front of the arm down to the dot.

10. Length of sleeve, 26 inches. Without moving the measure, down to the wrist. This mode of measuring the sleeve is the most reliable that I have experienced.

11. Drop of shoulder, 20 inches. Passing round the arm over the shoulder-joint on the most direct line to the extreme edge of the tape, which passes in front of the shoulder bone.

12. Depth of scye, 21½ inches. Up to the starting-point (socket bone). *See that your measure be placed in good order.*

13. Double shoulder, 42 inches. Throw the measure over the other shoulder, round the arm, joining it at the back in the form of a cross. When, in extreme cases, the tape measure is too short to take the double shoulder measure, take it singly, starting from the centre of the back round the arm, returning to the starting-point. Always take this measure double when possible, for it is the most correct, excepting, however, when the body is one-sided, all measures should be taken on both sides.

(I am obliged to take a small measure, that the model drafted from it might be placed in the book, but all sizes are to be drafted in the same manner.)

TRACING.

In order to learn this system readily and easily, do not waste your time in examining the diagrams. Commence to draft at once, and in order, as per following instructions:

1. Draw the back and top lines; establish on the latter half of the breast measure, 15 inches from the back line to A, and from A to the front line one-sixteenth of the breast measure.

2. Double shoulder measure, 42 inches. Place the scale, as on the full-size diagram, 42 on the back line, the corresponding number 42 for line B, and the end for the central line.

Line C in the centre, between line B and central line.

Line D, same distance from line B that there is from line B to central line, which will place it from the back line the same as from C to B. To obtain it easily and correctly, place the end of the scale on line B, and take 42 again for line D.

3. Front balance, 17 inches. Establish the waist line (on the central line) 17 inches from the top line, including the top of the back, or, in other words, 17 inches from the top line less the distance there is from line D to the back line.

4. Adjustment, 6 inches. Establish a point, E, on the waist line, 6 inches from the central line; also, a point, F, which is from the central line, the third part of the distance that there is from E to the back line.

5. Waist measure, 26 inches. Take the half (13 inches), from E to G, or, if you please, from E to the central line 6 inches, continuing to the front, 13 inches. If it comes inside the front line make a V for the difference. (See Fig. 2.) Increase outside according to measure, as Fig. 3.

6. Back balance, $16\frac{1}{4}$ inches. From F to the top of the back (see Fig. 1), square it up to line D.

Establish the point H (on the central line), which is from the top line the half of the distance there is from A to B (on the top line); that is to say, let it be 9 inches from A to B, then make the point H $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the top line. This point H is to locate the neck shoulder point, which is governed by the top of the back, placing the square as on Figs. 2 and 3.

7. Depth of scye (or arm-hole), $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Take the half, $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, from the top of the back down to line C, and make a dot (see Fig. 1), then the other half from the neck shoulder point (top line), including the top of the back, and make another dot. (See Fig. 1.) Take the centre for line J, if they do not come together.

Line K, obliquely from the junction of the central line and line J, to the top of the back line and line D.

Line L, square on the junction of lines C and K.

8. Drop of shoulder, 20 inches. The star is the point to sweep the shoulder from; its distance from the central line is the difference there is from the drop of shoulder, 20 inches, to the depth of scye, $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

From A to A one-thirty-second and one-sixteenth of the breast measure (for base).

These are all the points for whatever the style or fashion you need to make according to taste; but it depends on the talent of the cutter to make such kind of coats, tight or loose, with grace and elegance and *l'air distingué* required by the art.

Frock, Dress Coat, or any other kind of Fitting Coat.—Length of waist, say $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches from the top of the back down to the lower waist line. (Many cutters give the spring for the lower waist by mere guess, which is, however, better than a bad measurement.)

Hip, $27\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Take the half, $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches, from the front to M, on the lower waist line. Shape the back according to taste, cut it out and place it as in Fig. 2, so as to have the correct back balance, $16\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the junction of the central and waist lines to the top of the back; and 6 inches from the central line to the back (waist) when adjusted. (See Fig. 2.)

It must be observed that the point F is of no more use, it had been established to find the hight of the back, providing for the surplus which is between the back and the side-body, or in other words for a sack; but fitting the back with the side-body, the measure is to be used as it has been taken, from the socket bone to the top of the hip, perpendicularly with the front of the shoulder bone, which is the central line.

Shape the side seam as for short waist, extending to the full length of the back. Spread the back to point M, as in full-size diagram, and shape for the lower waist in the centre, which gives half of the spring needed, the other half in the side-body seam. When the three pieces are cut, place them together to ascertain if it is correct to the measure. For close-fitting coats it can be rather smaller and have it stretched.

Shaping the forepart, it can be perceived that the shoulder is dropped from the top line, and shaped above, near the neck, for the value of two seams.

The junction of the front line and line J is the base to shape the front (without lapel); the lower part according to waist measure.

Skirts.—Frock coats, front to be parallel with front line, and the back with line D, down to about the seat, for all kinds of coats, including Dress-coats. (See Fig. 4.)

SLEEVES.—All cutters are aware of the difficulties encountered in the hanging of sleeves. I have overcome these difficulties, by establishing a fixed point for the forearm seam, in the centre, between lines J and L, and the back seam in the centre of the back scye on the line, and cutting them as the figure. Measure the upper part of the arm-hole from one notch to the other, say 7 inches, which makes the width of the sleeve from O to O.

From O to X (both) same as the back scye (on the line). (See the figure.)

The horizontal lines are also from the back (or rather the depth of scye). From 1 to 2, half of the back scye. Down to 3, same as from the centre of the back scye to line J. (See the figure.)

Length of sleeves, 26 inches. From the top line (on central line) to the notch, including the top of the back, then from P to 8, 26 inches.

Make a line from 8 to 3, square the bottom from that line; also, for the elbow, from the centre, between 3 and 8.

Take in consideration broad shoulders, and back exceeding the base as Fig. 1. About half of the difference should be taken off the sleeves.

SACK.

FIG. 1.—The dotted lines are to show that the seams can be removed more or less, according to fashion or taste, also the increase of the back from its base, which is line B. In cutting the back shoulder seam round (as on the figure), and about half an inch longer than the back shoulder seam, drawing it in making, it will be of the shape of the forepart shoulder seam when finished, and will fit the back part of the arms very nicely. The size of the lower part is generally right, as on the figure, but it is better to apply the seat measure, making a line about 9 inches below the waist line, establishing on that line a point N, one-fourth of the waist measure from the central line; that is to say, the waist measure being 26 inches, take the quarter of it, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the central line to N, then from the point N to O, the half of the seat measure, $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches; then you have a sure guide, from which you should not depart but for increase, according to fashion or taste; if cut just on the measure, it would be rather too close fitting around the seat, allowing about 2 inches will make it easy, still more will make it loose. The seat measure can also be used advantageously for any kind of coat with close-fitting skirt.

OVERCOATS can be cut from the same measurement, increasing according to the thickness of the goods and lining, taking in consideration the thickness of the coat which it is to go over. However, 3 inches of increase is a good medium on breast, waist, and double shoulders; 2 on depth of scye, $1\frac{3}{4}$ on drop of shoulders, three-quarters on adjustment, and three-eighths on the back balance only.

COAT ON BREAST MEASURE.

All the old systems have been based on the breast measure, but have given so much trouble, even to the most talented, that they are used in custom trade but by very few, except for sample coats measure sent from abroad, or measure taken by some one else, of which you do not understand but the breast measure. Therefore I will give the proportions to cut on breast measure, based for a good medium proportion, and not on imaginary forms, which can be used advantageously for the above purposes. It would be beneficial, however, to be well acquainted with it, in order to judge if the variation obtained by measurement come to your expectation.

All the perpendicular lines to be obtained the same as for coat on measurement, EXCEPT, *instead of using the double shoulder measure scale, take the breast measure scale.*

Line J to be the same distance from the top line as line C is from the back line.

The top of the back, half of its width from the top line; that is to say, the top of the back to be from the top line, the half of the distance which is from line D to the back line.

Lines K and L same as for coat on measurement.

The neck shoulder point and the star to be from the central line, the third part that there is from the central line to A.

The waist line, half of the breast measure, from the top line.

Take line D for guide to establish the width of the lower part of the back, and line B for the side seam (short waist) and spring it off for long waist; then you can remove the seams in giving to one what you take from the other.

VARIATIONS OBTAINED BY MEASUREMENT.

Figs. 2 and 3 (on the same breast measure), are to show the variations obtained by measurement without any change of the applications. They are not imaginary, but are the exact reproduction of models which have been used without being subject to any change or alterations.

Measures of the above figures taken from the measure book:

	Fig. 2. 443 J. J. S.		Fig. 3. 463 Jas. A. H.
Breast	40	....	40
Waist	29	....	41
Hip	$31\frac{1}{2}$	....	42
Length of waist	19	....	$19\frac{1}{2}$
Adjustment	$7\frac{1}{4}$	....	$8\frac{3}{4}$
Back balance	$20\frac{1}{4}$	....	$21\frac{1}{4}$
Front balance	22	....	$20\frac{1}{4}$
Drop of shoulders	26	....	$26\frac{3}{4}$
(Extra over the bone)	27	....	—
Depth of scye	27	....	29
Double shoulders	54	....	$57\frac{1}{2}$

IMPORTANT REMARKS.

1. The shaded places are to be stretched, particularly the neck gorge and scye, the others do not need to be so much and are not so important, but will be more graceful. Prominent shoulders need a great deal more, which can be ascertained by taking an extra measure next that of the drop of shoulder, and on the same plan, but over the most prominent part of the shoulder bone; the surplus should be the amount of stretching. In extreme cases, the surplus may be more than it can be stretched, then cut it as the dotted lines of Fig. 2, and stretch also the shoulder seam still more, so as to bring it to its right shape.

Stretching and V can be avoided wholly or partly by cutting the shoulders straighter and longer, more or less, as the dotted lines of Fig. 4, and have them well padded; work of this kind is heavy, but may suit some classes of trade, and may be the safest if you are not very sure of the ability of your hands. Uniforms, however, could not be graceful otherwise.

2. When the distance of the point E from the back line is more than the distance which there is from line B to line D, the surplus is to be taken off obliquely as Fig. 2, that is to say, from E to the back it could not be more than it is from line B to line D. The same quantity which is taken off on line J by the oblique line is to be added in front; and at the back scye, about the half to exceed line B. (See Fig. 2.)

On Fig. 3 the front is also shaped outside of the fitting point (or rather the formation), but it is for filling up the hollow occasioned by large abdomen. Broad shoulders for such shapes, as Fig. 3, would not produce a good result.

3. On extreme high shoulders it would be beneficial to move the shoulders forward half of the difference from good proportions (see coat on breast measure); that is to say, if for good proportions the star should be 2 inches from the central line, and your measurement places it at 1 inch, then move the shoulder forward a half-inch from the point established by the application of the square. (See Fig. 2.)

A FEW WORDS ON ALTERATIONS.

There are a great number of coats which have been *wounded* by cutting or making, and *killed* by alterations. In order to prevent this it is of the greatest importance to know the origin of this mis-fit; for the alteration is very seldom to be done where it shows, and I call your attention in some cases, which brings a good many: Linings too tight or not fitting the outside, collar too short, scye or neck not stretched as it should be; too tight at the lower waist, either from the cut or the make. All these cases can bring wrinkles and tightness at the arm-holes; it can possibly, in some, have a tolerable appearance, and be only tight at the arm-holes; if you cut some off without succeeding to make it go, either by being too tight yet, or the appearance of new wrinkles, then the alterations begin; and after all your trouble, the coat is too small at the chest, too short at the waist—*killed!*

A case which also gives trouble to many, is the shoulder dropped too much, which makes it also tight at the arm-holes, although the coat having a loose appearance and opening at the fronts; the right alteration is to let out at shoulder-drop; any other might *kill* the coat. It is always dangerous to cut from the scye, for it could very seldom be the case in a coat cut with principle.

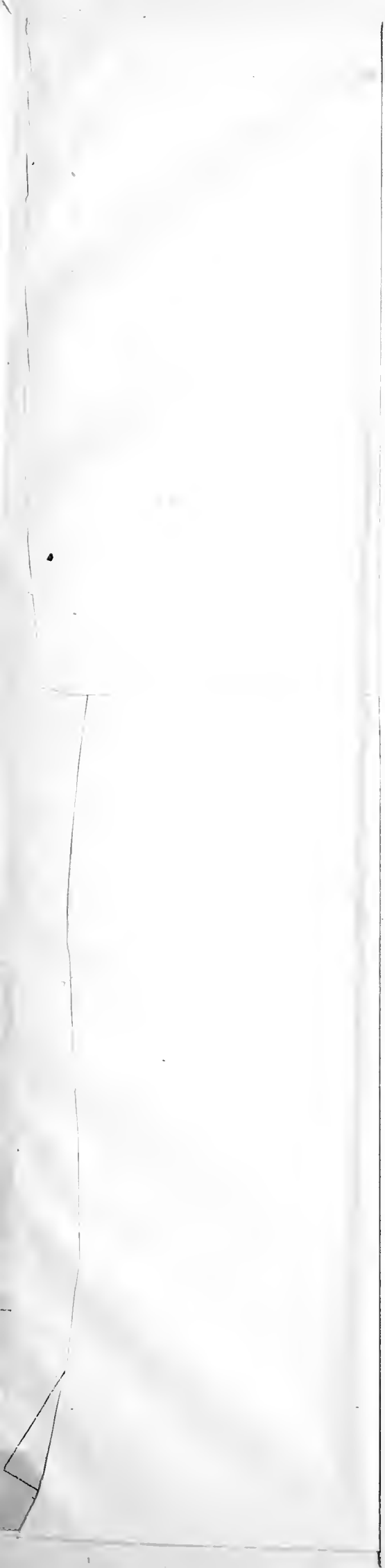
By leaving an outlet on the shoulder, you can always save a coat; and if there comes a case you do not understand, then the best is to measure again, and by comparing it with the first, you will very likely (if you understand this system) find your error and see that a correct measure must fit, even if cut by some one else.

Notice.—If the cutters had a society, where all systems should be admitted and discussed openly, they would overcome all difficulties, obtain great perfection, save themselves a great deal of trouble, the art would be improved, and the trade would be benefited by it.

SATIN-WOOD SQUARE, with Scales and all accommodations to Draft by (for Subscribers only)..... $3 00

BELT to place round the Waist, with Slide to locate the point for Balances..... $2 00

(I do not use it, but it is found very convenient by some.)



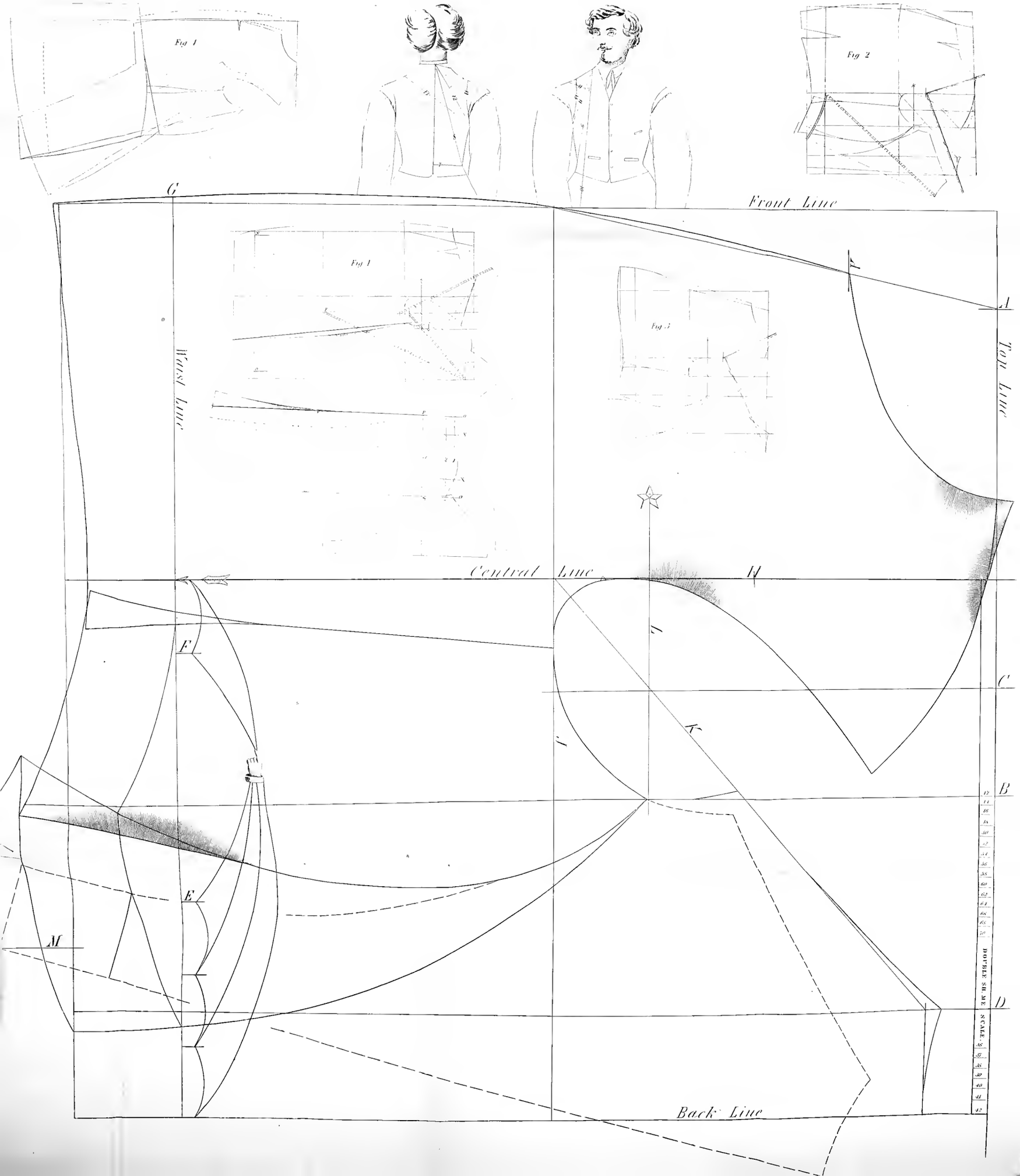


Fig 1
Fig 2
Fig 1
Fig 3
G
Front Line
Waist Line
Top Line
A
Central Line
H
F
C
K
B
E
M
D
Back Line
DOUBLE SH. ME
SCALE

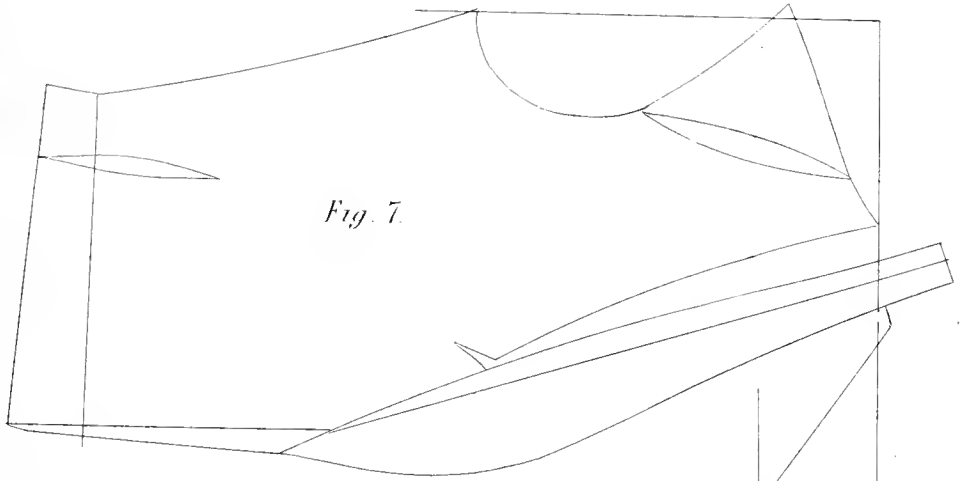


Fig. 7.

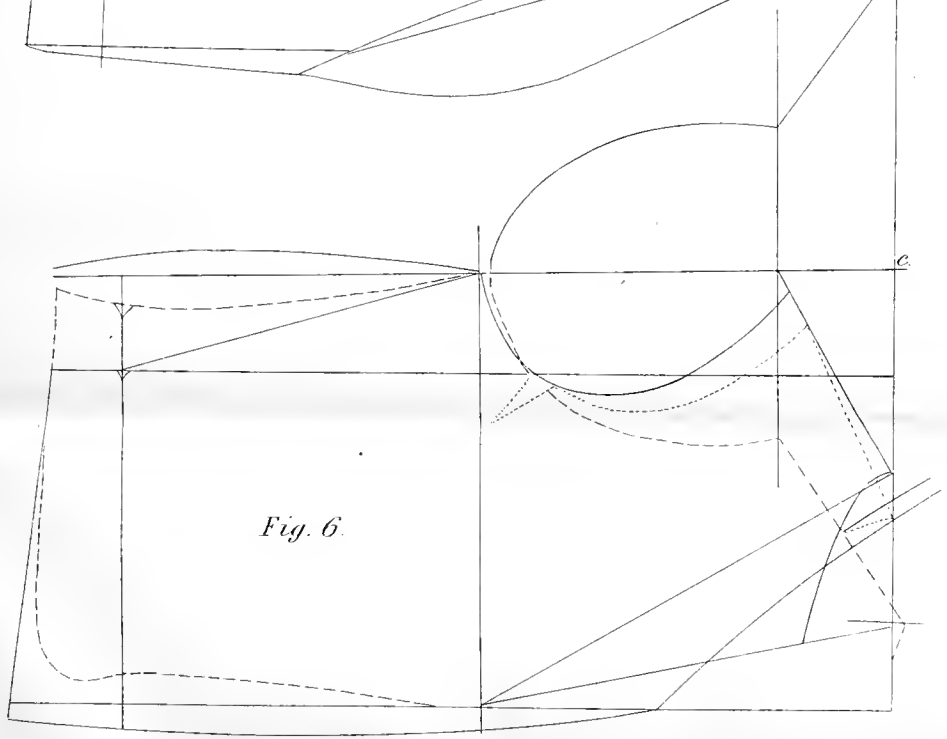


Fig. 6.

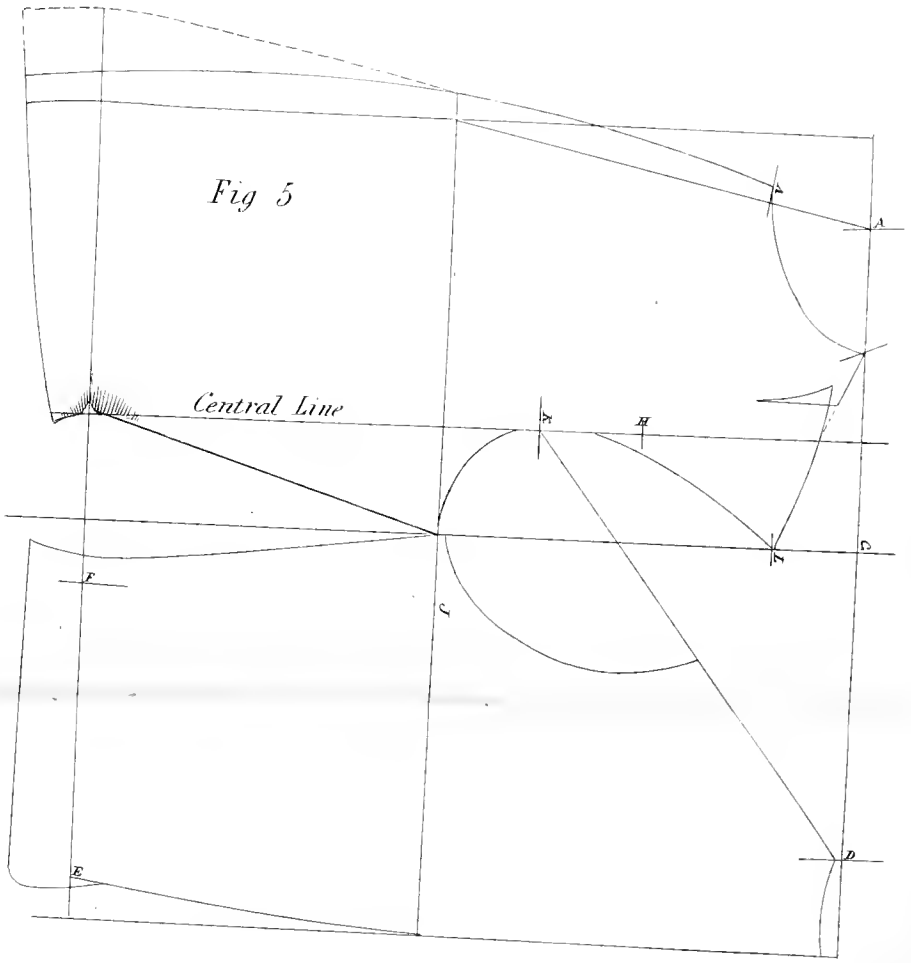


Fig 5

VESTS.

FIG. 5.—Drafting of vest is very similar to the coat, and from the same measurement adding the opening from the socket bone down to the buttoning up, and length.

1. Breast measure, 30 inches. Back line, top line, point A, and front line, same as for coat.

2. Double shoulder measure, 42 inches. The central line to be from the back line, one-fourth of the double shoulder measure.

3. Front balance, 17 inches. Establish the waist line, same as for coat. Point E, one-thirty-second of the breast measure from the back line.

4. Adjustment, 6 inches from E to F.

5. Half of the waist measure, 13 inches from the central line to the front, including the adjustment; if it comes inside the front line, the best is to make a V for the difference, as Fig. 7. Increase outside of the front line according to measure, but do not depart from the central line.

6. Back balance, 16¼ inches. From F to the top of the back (as coat).

The point H from the top line, the fourth of the distance that there is from the back to the front line. The neck shoulder point same as for coat, with the application of the square.

Line C, the eighth of the breast measure from the neck shoulder point.

7. Depth of scye, 21½ inches. Take the half, 10¾ inches, from the neck shoulder point down to line C, including the top of the back, and make a dot (as coat). If the back comes lower than the top line, make line J half of the difference lower; if it comes higher, it is the contrary.

Line D, one-sixteenth of the breast measure from back line.

Point K, one-sixteenth of the breast measure from line J.

Drop of shoulder 1½ inches (from 20 to 21½ inches) from the top line down to L.

Shape it as the figure; the back exceeding by about one thirty-second of the breast measure, the point F. Putting a puff in shoulders, or stretching, will clear the wrinkles which very often make their appearance in the shoulders.

The mode which I am using, with success, is to put a puff in the wiggan, and stretch the outside to fit it; or, instead of a puff, cut a fish (in wiggan), as in Fig. 7. To have it done plain, cut shoulders narrower, as Fig. 6.

VEST ON BREAST MEASURE.—Fig. 6.—From the front line to line C one-fourth, and one-thirty-second of the breast measure; or the half and one-sixteenth for the whole, as Fig. 5.

The neck shoulder point one-eighth of the breast measure from line C, and the central line one-sixteenth.

Line J one-third of the breast measure from the top line, including the top of the back.

The top of the back on top line.

Point E same as on measurement; point F not needed. Take line C for guide to shape the back.

DROP OF SHOULDER.—Make a line from the neck shoulder point, down to the junction of front and line J, and square the drop of shoulder from it. Make a line on the junction of the drop and line C, and drop the back on it. (See the figure.)

PANTALOONS.

MEASURE.

1. Waist, say 30 inches.

2. Seat, around the largest part, 36 inches.

3. Side length, from the top of hip (to the knee, for close fitting, 23 inches) down to the bottom, 40 inches.

4. Inside length (close to the fork), 31 inches.

5. Spring, 30½ inches from the top of hip around the fork, passing over the seat, going up to the starting point. This measure, properly taken, is of great importance, and without it you can never be sure of a good fit. It gives spring to the back, according to the form. If it has not enough spring, the pants draw at every move, are uncomfortable, and seem too short; if too much spring, they bag behind, wrinkle inside the legs, and look too long at the heel.

Thigh to be measured on both sides; the difference should be for the dress (if the measurement is correct).

The above measures to be taken smooth, neither tight or loose, without reference to fashions. Knee, calf, and bottom according to fashion or taste, taking in consideration the size of the feet for the latter.

TRACING.

Fig. 8.—Side length, 40 inches from top to bottom.

Inside length, 31 inches from bottom to fork line.

Knee, 23 inches from top to knee line.

Seat measure, 36 inches. From A to B, one-fourth of the seat measure and the central line between. From B to C (both) one-sixteenth. F in the centre, between B and G. Point E from C, one-third of the distance that there is from B to C.

Waist measure, 30 inches. From G to H one-fourth of the breast measure.

Back.—Make a line from point E, passing on the junction of point F and front line; increase from C to D of one-thirty-second of the seat measure.

Spring measure, 30½ inches. Measure from C to H, then with the remainder of the seat measure make a sweep from D, and establish the hight of the back on it, to match the hight of the front. (See Fig. 9.) If the back is wider than one-fourth of the waist measure, make a V with the difference.

The plain lines are for plain, straight pants, from which artists can make them according to fashion or taste, and change the seams by giving to one what is taken off the other.

I give on the same figure the change from plain pants to close-fitting, which I am using with success.

Front — — — — — — — —
Back.....

Sewing the seams even at the top and bottom, and matching the notches, will give about three-eighths of an inch of stretching to the back; for the lower part, the front should be about three-quarters of an inch shorter, stretching it about the half, and drawing the back of the difference to form the calf.

Fig. 10.—Shows the formation of the legs by pressing, which can be obtained from that cut without any trouble.

Many cutters give considerable trouble to the hands, and charge them unjustly with not obtaining a result which they could not obtain themselves.

Fig. 9.—For large abdomens, and can be obtained from measurement. If you have the adjustment measure from the coat, use it in the same manner, leaving the adjustment for the back, and placing the remainder of the pants waist measure, from H to the front, at the point where it goes outside the line. In order to make a large abdomen appear as small as possible, shape also the lower part outside of the line, as on the figure and the crutch exceeding point C. If the front is too wide to satisfy your fancy, take some off and add it to the back. If you have not the coat measure, take an extra measure for the front, from the dot established same as for coat.

NOTE.—It is of great importance to place the centre line parallel with the edge of the goods, front and back.

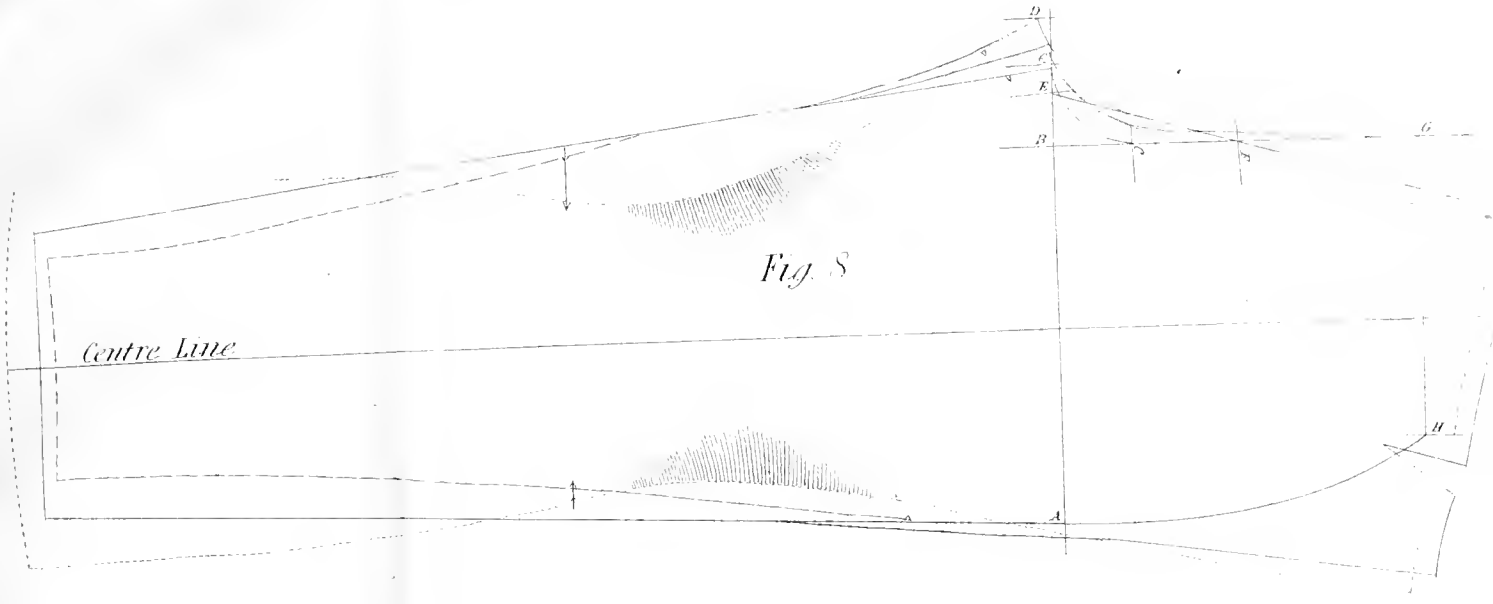


Fig. 8

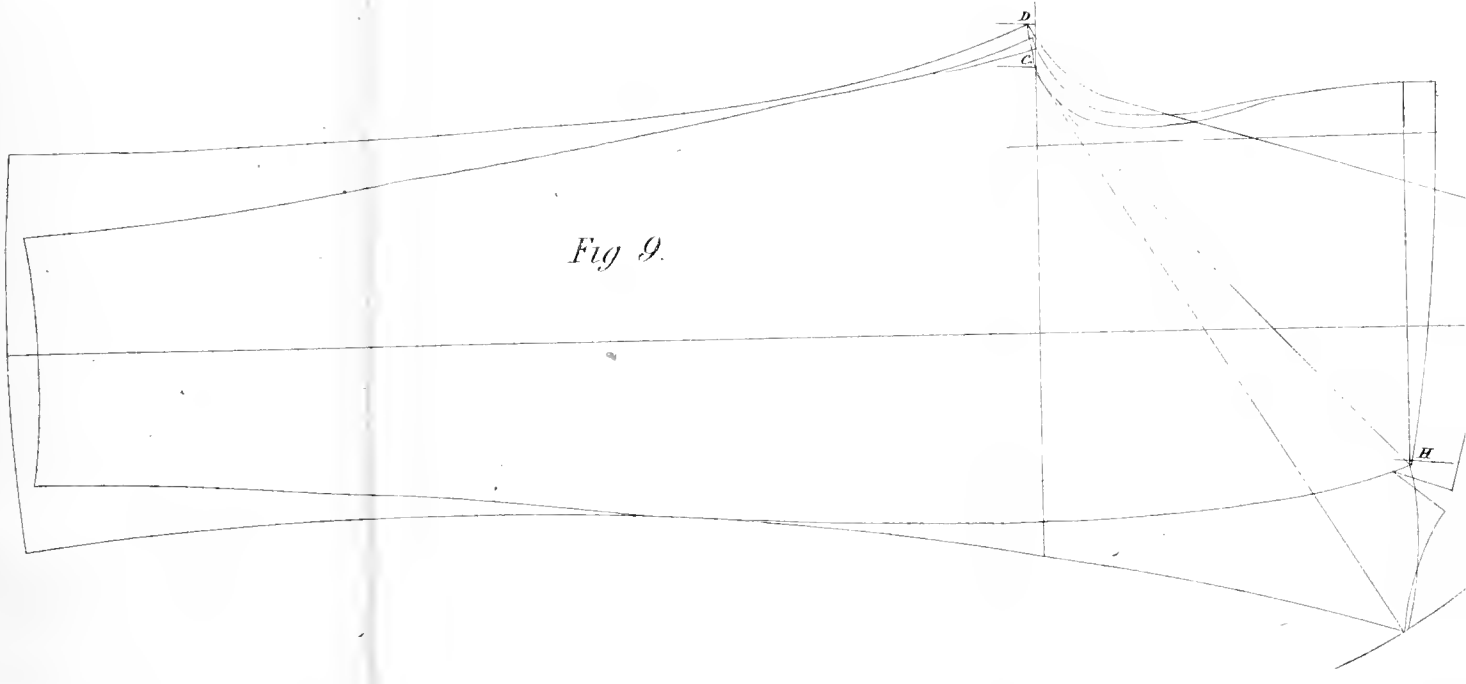


Fig 9.

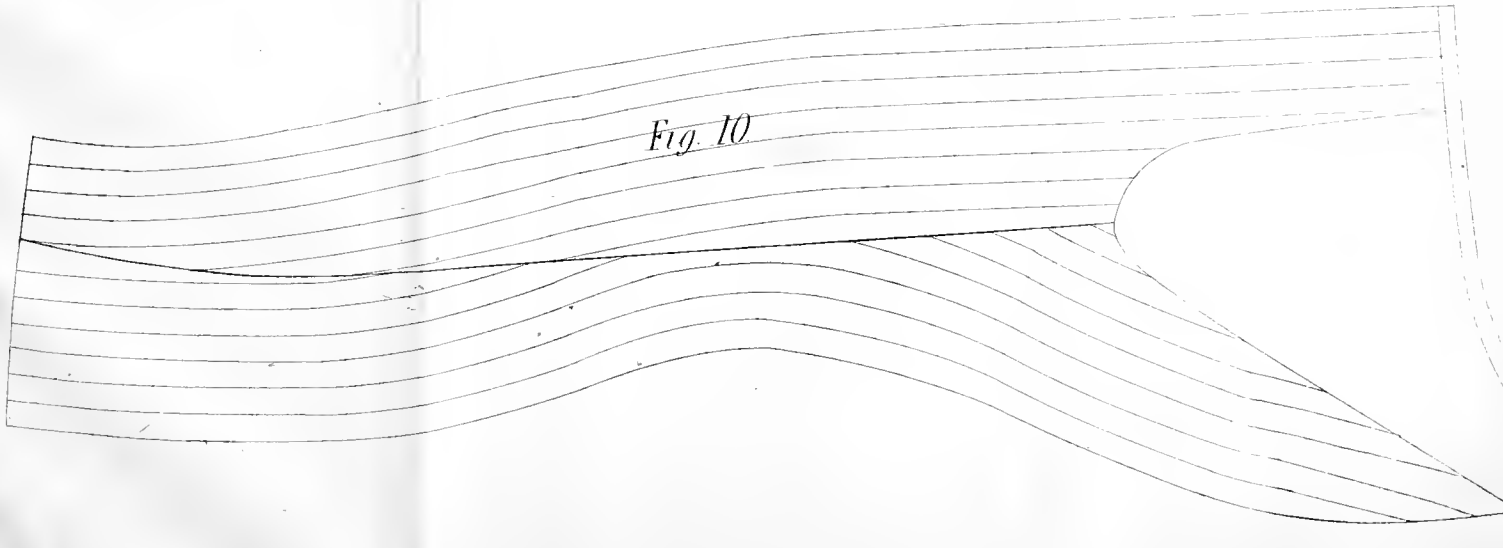


Fig. 10

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